

Voting Rights Act Youth Video Competition



SHOW US WHY VOTING AND THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT IS IMPORTANT FOR OUR DEMOCRACY -- AND YOU

As part of Human Rights Week, the Minnesota Department of Human Rights (MDHR) is sponsoring a video contest open to young people across the state, as we mark the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Finalists will be honored the first week of December during Human Rights Week in Minnesota, and their videos will be showcased by MDHR on YouTube. Commissioner Lindsey will recognize the finalists at their school and discuss voting and the Voting Rights Act with the students' class.

BACKGROUND

Fifty years ago Congress passed what has been called the most significant piece of legislation in the area of civil rights: the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on August 6, the Voting Rights Act sought to overcome legal barriers -- from poll taxes to literacy tests -- that had kept African Americans from exercising their right to vote.

THE CHALLENGE

Videos should creatively show how you view one or more of these topics:

- The Voting Rights Act of 1965 and why it was important
- Why it's important that the right to vote is protected today
- What voting means to you and why you are looking forward to voting

Eligibility

- Youth in grades 4-12
- Adults ages 18-25

Video Details

- Length: 30 seconds to 2 minutes
- Upload your video to YouTube

Deadline: November 16, 2015

MORE INFORMATION

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